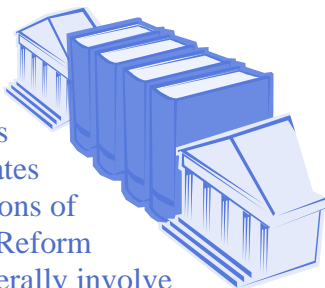


## Enforcing The Law

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission investigates and prosecutes violations of California's Political Reform Act. These cases generally involve conflicts of interest, campaign contributions and expenditures and lobbying disclosure issues.



**Each year**, we receive and act upon hundreds of complaints filed by residents from all areas of the state. Complaints may be made by using the form available on the FPPC's web site or by mail, using the letter format suggested on the web site, [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov).

**Filing a complaint.** Anyone who suspects a violation of the Political Reform Act may file a written complaint with the FPPC. Prior to filing a written complaint, it may be advantageous to contact the Enforcement Division's "intake unit" at the toll free number **1-800-561-1861** to determine whether the FPPC has jurisdiction over the activity in question. The intake unit will not comment on whether any violation has actually occurred.

**As a general rule**, the identity of any person filing a complaint will not be disclosed to the public or the parties against whom the complaint was made.



## How To Contact Us:

### By mail:

Fair Political Practices Commission  
428 J Street, Suite 620  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### Internet:

[www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)

### By telephone:

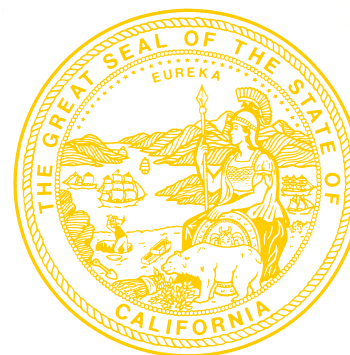
Toll-free advice line:  
1-866-ASK-FPPC  
(1-866-275-3772)  
Regular line: 1-916-322-5660  
Enforcement hot-line:  
1-800-561-1861



*A good idea -*

Call for toll-free advice at:  
**1-866-ASK-FPPC**

# California Fair Political Practices Commission



## Your Resource For

- *Advice*
- *Education*
- *Enforcement*

## On the Law Governing

- *Conflicts of interest*
- *Campaign contributions and expenditures*
- *Lobbying disclosure*

Call us toll-free for advice:

**1-(866)-ASK-FPPC**

## *An Independent and Bipartisan State Commission*

California's Fair Political Practices Commission was created by the Political Reform Act of 1974, a ballot initiative passed by California voters as Proposition 9.

The Commission is a bipartisan, independent body of five members that administers and enforces the Political Reform Act's rules on conflicts of interest, campaign contributions and expenditures and lobbying disclosure. Supporting the Commission is a staff of 75 employees in the Administration, Technical Assistance, Legal and Enforcement Divisions.

We educate the public and public officials on the requirements of the Act. We provide written and oral advice to public agencies and officials; conduct seminars and training sessions; develop forms, manuals and instructions, and receive and file economic interest statements from many state and local officials.

We investigate alleged violations of the Political Reform Act, impose penalties when appropriate and assist state and local agencies in developing and enforcing conflict-of-interest codes.

The Governor appoints two commissioners, including the chairman. The Secretary of State, the Attorney General and the State Controller each appoint one commissioner. Commissioners serve a single, four-year term, and no more than three members can be registered with the same political party. The chairman is salaried and full-time. The other four members serve part-time.



*The purposes of California's Political Reform Act are spelled out in the initiative's preamble, including:*

**"Receipts and expenditures in election campaigns should be fully and truthfully disclosed in order that the voters may be fully informed and improper practices may be inhibited."**

**"The activities of lobbyists should be regulated and their finances disclosed in order that improper influences will not be directed at public officials."**

**"Assets and income of public officials which may be materially affected by their official actions should be disclosed and in appropriate circumstances the officials should be disqualified from acting in order that conflicts of interest may be avoided."**



## *We Provide:*

- Advice*
- Outreach*
- Training*



*"If my home is near a proposed new shopping center, can I vote on the issue during next month's planning commission meeting?"*

**Toll-free advice line, 1-866-ASK-FPPC.** Public officials, local government filing officers, candidates and others with obligations under the Political Reform Act are encouraged to call toll-free for advice on issues including campaign contributions and expenditures, lobbying and conflicts of interest. *FPPC staff members answer thousands of calls for telephone advice each month.* The FPPC provides written advice in response to more complicated questions.

**FPPC on the web, [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov).** The FPPC web site is your connection to campaign reporting and lobbying rules, conflict-of-interest fact sheets, summaries of enforcement decisions and many other documents and services.

**FPPC seminars and outreach programs.** Contact the FPPC or check our Web site to learn about or request seminars and training sessions on your obligations under the Political Reform Act. Special outreach programs target local filing officers, candidates and others.